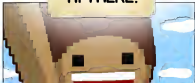


HI THERE!



I PLAY AN EXTRA IN
(THE LEGEND OF THE DRAGON SWORD)
WHO PLAYS WITH "MAX"
IN THE LOCAL PARK.





MY NAME'S "KID."



FOR OUR HEROES.



WE MAY NOT GET THE CHANCE
TO GIVE YOU ANY QUESTS
OR ITEMS. BUT...

WOOF!!



SPIN SPIN

WE WANTED TO AT LEAST
PROVIDE SOME ENTERTAINMENT



**SO I TAUGHT MAX
THIS TRICK!**

**MAX IS THE BEST
FETCHER IN THE WORLD!**







...B-BUT





MOST HEROES WERE JUST A BIT
COLD- AH, I MEAN BUSY_!



WE MAY NOT BE VERY
IMPORTANT IN THE PLOT,
BUT IF WE KEEP PRACTICING THEY'LL
BE ENTERTAINED SOMEDAY!



WE WORKED HARDER
AND HARDER.





IF OUR HERO WAS BUSY,
WE WOULD TRY
EVEN HARDER.



TO PROVE THAT
WE WERE USEFUL TOO.







CLASP

A comic panel showing a white cat-like creature with its mouth open, as if clapping or making a sound. The word "CLASP" is written in large, stylized white letters with a black outline, indicating the sound. The background is a light brown, textured surface with some green specks.





A pixelated, low-resolution image of a character with a green head and a red body, possibly a Scratch character, in a dynamic pose. The word "SCRATCH" is written in large, white, pixelated capital letters with a black outline in the top right corner.

SCRATCH

A pixelated, low-resolution image of the same character from the first panel, now wearing a red cape and standing on a sandy patch of ground. The character has a blue, spiky head. A speech bubble is positioned above the character's head. The background shows a blue sky with white clouds and a dark, rocky landscape.

THERE DOESN'T
SEEM ANYTHING THAT'S
WORTH SEEING IN
THIS PARK.

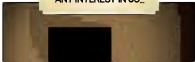
...BUT



ALL I COULD DO WAS
REPEAT THE SAME LINES...



NO ONE SHOWED
ANY INTEREST IN US...





SINCE WE DON'T
HELP THE GAME
PROGRESS IN ANY WAY.







B-....



BUT...





WHAT'S UP
WITH THIS HERO?!!

GUARDIANS OF THE VIDEO GAME

STAGE 10 - THE STRUGGLES OF YOUTH



AGAIN

SPIN SPIN



LEAP



CLASP



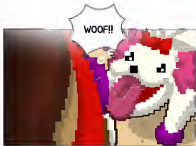
MAX IS THE BEST
FETCHER IN THE WORLD!

TA

DA



Wooooooooooooooooo!!!



WOOOOOOOW...



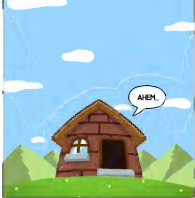
DO IT AGAIN!
AGAIN!!





SEE? I TOLD YOU
WE'D FIND ONE SOMEDAY.





broon

I MEAN, HE'S ACTUALLY THE
FIRST HERO TO EVER PUT HIMSELF
IN THE SHOES OF BLACK DRAGON.

I DIDN'T SEE THROUGH
THAT AND JUST LET OFF MY
OLD MAN'S RAGE

RATTLE

WHAT COULD AN
INNOCENT HERO LIKE
HIM DO WRONG...
HOHO...

SO MUCH
ANGER IN ONE
DAY...

BITTER

MAYBE I WASN'T
PREPARED VERY WELL SINCE
WE HAVEN'T HAD A HERO
IN A LONG TIME...

YEAH...MAYBE THIS IS
THE BEGINNING OF A
NEW GENERATION...

BRUSH

BRUSH



WHEN HE GETS BACK.
I'D BETTER SHOW HIM
HOW WARM I CAN BE.

GRANDPA~~~~

JUMP



AH!! THERE
YOU ARE!!

REACH





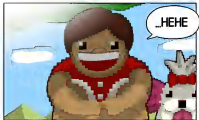


REMEMBER OUR PROMISE_?



WE SAID THAT IF A HERO
SHOWED UP ONE DAY WHO TRULY
APPRECIATED US_ WE'D GIVE
HIM A GOLD STICK AS A GIFT_

WOOF!



I THINK HE'S THE ONE WE'VE
BEEN WAITING FOR!





WHAT KIND OF A HERO
ARE YOU...?!!!









Too...!!



YOU BROUGHT THE RIGHT CLUB!!!



SHALL WE BEGIN OUR FIRST FIGHT?
THERE'S A PACK OF 'WILD DOGS'
OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE THAT KEEPS
HARRASSING VILLAGERS!

AHA~

CLASP

YOU SON OF A GUN SURELY WOULD
TAKE CARE OF THOSE NASTY DOGS
FOR US. RIGHT? RIGHT?
YOU SURELY WOULD!!!!

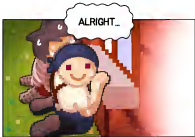
YEAH YEAH~

SHAKE

SHAKE



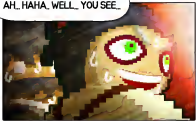




SO, WHAT ABOUT
THE DAGGER?



AH, HAHA, WELL, YOU SEE...

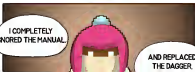


WHAT HAPPENED IS-..!

TAP



THIS IS ALL
MY FAULT



I COMPLETELY
IGNORED THE MANUAL

AND REPLACED
THE DAGGER

I CONSIDER MYSELF
FULLY LIABLE FOR ALL OF THESE.



AND
HEREBY HAND IN MY
GUARDIAN'S BADGE.



PLUS THE DAGGER'S
BLADE IS MADE OF A RARE
MATERIAL...

AND I HEARD THERE ISN'T
ANY MORE IN STOCK.



...I'VE RUINED TWO GAMES IN A ROW. I DON'T
THINK I AM WORTHY OF THE NAME, GUARDIAN.







